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NEWS RELEASE

Oct. 20, 2005

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UM SHOWCASES CAMPAIGN IN THE FLATHEAD VALLEY

MISSOULA –

The University of Montana unveiled its major, multi-year fund-raising campaign – “Invest in Discovery – Connecting People, Programs and Place” – during a recent event in **Kalispell.**

President George Dennison, academic deans and other UM officials met with alumni and friends from the Flathead Valley to present campaign priorities and report on progress to date.

The campaign, the largest comprehensive effort in UM’s history, has a goal of raising \$100 million over the next several years. University and UM Foundation administrators and volunteers raised \$72 million before taking the campaign public Sept. 30. The University’s last campaign, “Ensuring a Tradition of Excellence” raised \$71.4 million during 1992-1997.

Of the \$100 million goal, almost half is designated for renovation of existing classrooms and laboratories, as well as construction of new buildings, such as Don Anderson Hall – a new home for the School of Journalism – and a Native American Center. Goals for remaining priorities are evenly divided among undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships, faculty positions and new academic programs.

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“UM students – students from right here in the Flathead and from throughout the state – will be the true beneficiaries of a successful campaign,” said National Campaign Chair Deborah McWhinney of Tiburon, Calif. “Our success, and theirs, depends upon us involving alumni and friends everywhere by encouraging people to ‘Invest in Discovery’ through this fund-raising effort.”

McWhinney’s cabinet consists of Mickey Sogard of **Bigfork**, Charlie Oliver of **Hamilton** and Priscilla Gilkey of **Spokane**. The Kalispell regional committee is led by Ivan O’Neil of Kalispell.

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Flathead Valley newspapers, radio, TV
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